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8/5/97
EJF**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

4298 Elysian Fields Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122-3896
Telephone (504) 589-7166
Fax (504) 589-4657

July 29, 1997

WARNING LETTER NO. 97-NOL-53**CERTIFIED MAIL**
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Chris Kritikos, President
Ceres Terminals, Inc.
1200 Harbor Boulevard
8th Floor
Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Dear Mr. Kritikos:

This letter is to inform you of deviations from the Interstate Conveyance Sanitation Regulations (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1240), observed by a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigator, during an inspection of your vessel watering point located at Ceres Gulf Inc., 4000 France Road Parkway, New Orleans, Louisiana 70126, on July 23, 1997.

Discrepancies noted during the inspection include the following:

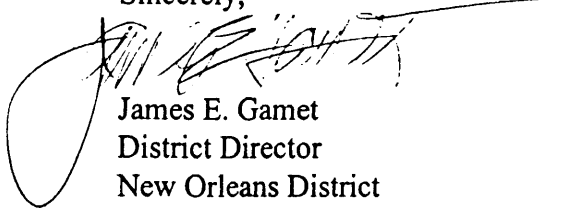
- 1) check valve is missing on the supply line, located in line to a 3/4" hydrant with threaded outlet, used to deliver potable water to ships;
- 2) potable and nonpotable water hydrants on the same pier are not labeled for their intended use;
- 3) the cap and keeper chain are not installed on a potable water hydrant.

Accordingly, we are classifying the watering point as PROVISIONAL for interstate carrier use for a period of thirty days. "Provisional" classification means that the watering point may continue to operate; however, significant corrections of deficiencies must be made by the expiration date. On or about that date, a reinspection of this facility will be conducted to assure that corrections meet FDA requirements.

If significant corrections are not made by August 29, 1997, the vessel watering point will be reclassified as "Not Approved" for carrier use.

Please advise this office in writing, within ten (10) days, of actions you have taken to correct the deficiencies and to assure that such violations will not recur. Your response should be directed to Nicole F. Hardin, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122-3896.

Sincerely,



James E. Gamet
District Director
New Orleans District

Enclosure: FDA 483

cc: Mr. Max Engler, Manager
 Ceres Gulf, Inc.
 4000 France Road Parkway
 New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

/tjt